



IDAHO CROP WEATHER



**IDAHO
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**
P.O. Box 1699
Boise, ID 83701

1-800-691-9987
FAX: (208) 334-1114
www.nass.usda.gov/id

ISSUE: ID-CW1303

Week Ending: March 30, 2003

Released: 3:00 p.m. MST March 31, 2003

March Ends Cool & Wet

Agricultural Summary

The last week of March brought scattered rain showers throughout the state. Most weather stations reported precipitation. Southwestern Idaho received up to 1.48 inches of rain last week. Spring temperatures were mostly below average and ranged from 48 to 76 degrees during the day and from 12 to 29 degrees at night. For the week ending March 30, major agricultural activities included planting spring wheat, barley, oats, sugarbeets, onions, dry peas, field preparation, spreading fertilizer, machine maintenance, setting out irrigation equipment, marketing and feeding livestock.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Lambing has progressed to 82% complete and Calving is 83% complete. Hay and Roughage supplies were reported to be 1% very short, 2% short, 76% adequate, and 21% surplus.

Field Crop Report

Statewide, spring planting is progressing well ahead of last year for all reported crops. County Extension Educators in North Idaho indicated that conditions are still too wet for planting in some areas. The states winter wheat was reported to be in mostly good condition. Payette County Extension Educators mentioned that apple trees are most likely to flower by the end of April.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Topsoil moisture was reported to be 8% very short, 23% short, 63% adequate and 6% surplus. Excessive winds have dried the little moisture received these past few weeks in areas of Eastern Idaho. Statewide, Idaho farmers had an average of 4.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Crop Progress Table

Percentages	2003	2002	Avg.
Onions Planted	68	12	29
Dry Peas Planted	5	0	4
Oats Planted	23	0	2

Condition Table

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Irr. Water Supply	6	31	40	23	0
Winter Wheat	0	1	14	81	4

Crop Progress District Table

Crop	North			Southwest			South-Central			East			State		
	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg
Spring Wheat															
Planted	1	1	4	86	40	43	33	0	30	6	0	5	11	2	11
Barley															
Planted	2	1	5	86	30	28	39	0	24	1	0	2	12	1	8
Sugarbeets															
Planted	NA	NA	NA	73	4	23	17	2	3	11	0	1	25	2	8

Avg (1998-2002); NA = Very Small Percentage of Acreage in District.

Don Gerhardt
State Statistician
Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service

Richard Reinhardt
Director
Western Regional Climate Center

Dr. Charlotte Eberlein
Interim Director for Cooperative Extension
University of Idaho

Weather Data For The Week Ending Sunday, March 30, 2003 ^{1/}

Station	Temperature ^{2/}				Growing Degree Days ^{4/}			Precipitation (Inches)				
	High	Low	Ave.	Dept. ^{3/}	40° Base	50° Base		Total	Dept ^{3/}	Month of March	March 1	
						To Date	Normal				To Date	Normal
North												
Coeur D'Alene	59	28	41	-1	76	4	0	0.68	0.38	2.11	2.11	2.57
Grangeville	68	24	40	0	91	11	0	0.14	-0.41	2.61	2.61	2.31
Lewiston	76	29	47	1	194	29	0	0.13	-0.13	2.20	2.20	1.04
Sand Point	57	28	40	0	30	0	0	0.75	0.24	5.28	5.28	2.72
Southwest												
Boise	70	26	43	-1	197	38	0	0.87	0.60	1.52	1.52	1.26
Caldwell	59	27	42	-5	218	45	0	0.43	0.18	0.67	0.67	1.03
Emmett	60	26	41	-5	177	35	0	0.53	0.24	1.65	1.65	1.25
Mountain Home	70	23	44	1	198	37	0	0.23	0.00	0.39	0.39	1.01
Parma	58	26	42	-2	224	50	0	0.34	0.09	0.65	0.65	1.07
Weiser	54	28	42	-3	198	35	0	1.48	1.24	1.49	1.49	1.08
Southcentral												
Buhl 5/	--	--	--	--	119	13	0	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.00	0.92
Burley	65	25	40	-1	98	9	0	0.50	0.30	1.20	1.20	0.87
Hill City	62	15	34	1	22	0	0	0.79	0.54	0.99	0.99	1.11
Hagerman 5/	--	--	--	--	245	49	0	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.00	1.02
Malta	63	12	38	-4	139	18	0	0.56	0.42	0.56	0.56	0.81
Twin Falls	56	25	39	-1	114	14	0	0.78	0.54	2.01	2.01	1.04
East												
Aberdeen 5/	48	19	--	--	42	0	0	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.00	0.70
Grace 5/	52	19	--	--	44	2	0	0.09	-0.19	0.61	0.61	1.26
Idaho Falls	62	19	37	0	50	0	0	0.07	-0.11	0.43	0.43	0.79
Malad City 5/	61	20	--	--	77	3	0	0.35	0.10	0.49	0.49	1.07
Pocatello	64	21	38	-1	83	9	0	0.10	-0.18	0.58	0.58	1.22
Rexburg	51	22	37	0	56	4	0	0.19	-0.01	0.67	0.67	1.10
Salmon 5/	55	25	--	--	86	15	0	0.05	-0.10	0.23	0.23	0.35

1/ Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data is quality controlled by the National Climate Center the accumulated growing degree days and precipitation values are updated. 2/-- indicate missing or incomplete data. 3/ Departure from normal. 4/ Totals from March 1. Growing degree days are estimated from neighboring sites for stations with missing or incomplete data. 5/ Precipitation totals are only for days reports were received, no estimates were made for missing data.

Daily High/Low Four Inch Soil Temperatures

Station	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		Average ^{1/}	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Buhl	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Emmett	57	49	56	48	51	50	54	47	54	47	55	47	56	47	55	48
Parma	46	45	45	45	45	45	45	44	44	43	--	--	--	--	45	44
Sandpoint	41	37	43	36	41	37	38	35	41	34	43	35	47	38	42	36
Twin Falls	47	39	48	38	48	37	43	37	41	35	48	36	49	38	46	37

1/ Averages are only for days reports were received. -- Missing or Incomplete Data.